

Application No: 10/695,466 Docket No.: Q128-US2

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IN THE CLAIMS**RECEIVED
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Please amend the claims as follows:

1.-10. (canceled)

11. (previously presented) An energy storage device, comprising:

a case having an opening;

an electrode assembly in the case, the electrode assembly including electrodes, the electrodes including one or more positive electrodes and one or more negative electrodes;

a cover configured to cover the opening of the case and defining a hole,

the cover being made of aluminum, and

the cover being electrically connected to one of the electrodes; and

a disk-shaped plug configured to seal the hole,

the plug including aluminum,

the plug being connected to the cover,

a layer of a material other than aluminum on a top surface of the plug,

the material being a metal or a metal alloy, and

the layer being in electrical communication with the aluminum included in

the cover so as to form a terminal of the energy storage device.

12. (previously presented) The energy storage device of claim 11, wherein the layer of material has a melting point higher than the melting point of aluminum.

13. (previously presented) The energy storage device of claim 11, wherein the layer of material is selected from the group consisting of nickel, stainless steel, titanium, copper, and alloys thereof.

14. (previously presented) The energy storage device of claim 11, wherein the layer of material is in accordance with a layer deposited on the top surface of the plug.

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15. (previously presented) The energy storage device of claim 11, wherein the layer of material is a metal cladding on the top surface of the plug.

16.-27. (canceled)

28. (previously presented) The energy storage device of claim 11, wherein the layer of material is in accordance with a layer deposited on the top surface of the aluminum.

29. (previously presented) The energy storage device of claim 11, wherein the layer of material is a metal cladding on the top surface of the aluminum.